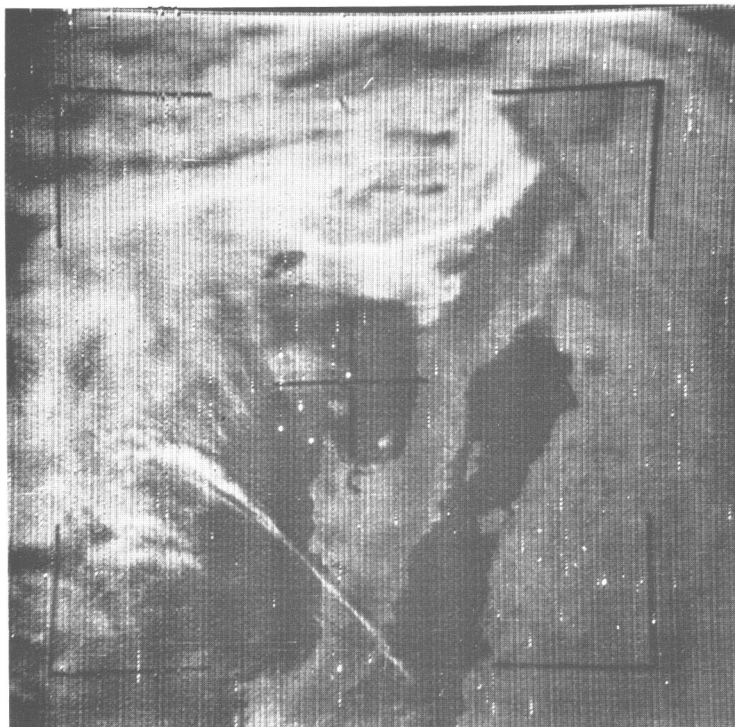


## PICTURE OF THE MONTH



This TIROS V photograph was taken on December 14, 1962, at 1036 a.m. PST on pass 2555 and was received at Pt. Mugu, Calif., via direct readout.

The well-defined streak of cloud, oriented nearly west-east across Baja California is an unexplained feature. It might be an aircraft condensation trail, but it is far south of most air routes, and the width of the streak in its western portion seems to preclude this explanation.

Some idea of the width of the cloud streak may be obtained by comparing it with other objects. The 2-to-3-mile-wide channel between the Mexican Coast and Tiburon Island is not discernible in this picture, whereas the 7-to-10-mile-wide channel between the island to the northwest and Baja California shows up clearly. Therefore, the cloud line must be at least 3 miles wide over most of its length and is 10 to 15 miles wide in its western portion.